

Josiah Harding – Eastham Land Records 1650-1745

Josiah Harding was the son of Joseph Harding and Bethiah Cooke. He was born in Eastham in 1669. He was one of ten children and he had four brothers. Josiah and his brother Joshua received the most land grants of the five brothers. Many Eastham second and third generation Hardings received Eastham land grants.

1703

Granted to Josiah Harding and his heirs a parcel of meadow in Great Meadow lying between the lots of Thomas Mulford Sr. and John Mulford. Acreage or lot dimensions were not given. Most grants in this area were at least two acres. PDF A204, M118.

1711

Granted to Josiah Harding, David Doane, Samuel Knowles, Nathaniel Mayo Jr. and John Sparrow in joint and equal partnership a lot on the southwesterly side of Great Island at Billingsgate. Acreage or lot dimensions were not given but most of these lots were about six or seven acres. Bounds were indicated by stakes. PDF T89.

Granted to Josiah Harding and his heirs about four acres on the southeastern side of Herring Pond and next to land of the Ministry. Bounds were indicated by marked trees. PDF T143.

Granted to Josiah Harding and his heirs about four acres at the head of the Grape Vine Swamp. Bounds were indicated by marked trees. PDF T143.

Granted to Josiah Harding and his heirs about six acres for his wood lot on the northerly side of First Brook and next to the wood lot of Richard Higgins. Bounds were indicated by marked trees. PDF T143.

1715

Granted to Josiah Harding and his heirs two parcels of land totaling about twelve and one-half acres adjoining his other land at Herring Pond. One parcel was on the western side of the way that went to Billingsgate. The other parcel was near the cartway to Billingsgate and next to land of Samuel Freeman Jr. and land of Edward Knowles. Bounds of both parcels were indicated by stones in the ground. PDF T227.

Granted to Josiah Harding and his heirs land for his wood lot near the way that went to Snow's Island and between land of George Brown, Isaac Higgins and Isaac Doane. The dimensions indicate the lot was about twenty-nine acres. PDF T275.

1722

Josiah Harding and Samuel Brown purchased for themselves and their heirs for three pounds paid to the agents for the proprietors all the upland not already laid out on the easterly end of Lieutenant's Island. Acreage was not given in the record but the purchase probably totaled at least four acres. PDF T325.

The Eastham land owned by Josiah Harding and his heirs described in these records amounts to about sixty acres. By 1745 fourteen more Hardings received Eastham land grants.